

Abstract

„God’s Love and Human Love in the Life of the Mental Prayer of St. Teresa of Avila“

This Diploma thesis deals with the personal experience of God’s love and human love of St. Teresa of Avila. It tries to map and present the role love played in the life of the mental prayer of this saint and how she understood this love by herself and presented it in her Doctrine. It subsequently attempts to outline the topicality of Teresa’s experience, and her pedagogical advices on the topic for today’s Christian life of mental prayer. Among many insights and inspirations it presents Teresa’s fundamental perception of God as the source of all existing love and guarantor of unity of human love for God and neighbour but also the ability of the saint to engage balanced basic dimensions of her whole being at the head by the will with simultaneous appreciation and correct involvement of the affective dimension in relationship to God and to people too. Such an attitude allows a person to love the other in God and simultaneously with all his human heart. The whole thesis is based primarily on the Teresa of Jesus’ writings and on the Carmelite spirituality literature.